

PRESS RELEASE – MAY 17, 2006

MJL Section To Honor Present & Future Leaders At Judge Haile L. Alford Memorial Breakfast

by Erika Y. Tross, Esq.

Wilmington, Delaware - The Multicultural Judges & Lawyers' Section of the Delaware State Bar Association proudly announces the Judge Haile L. Alford Memorial Breakfast. The Memorial Breakfast will be held on Thursday, May 18, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the DuPont Country Club.

Judge Haile Alford was the first African-American female judge in Delaware. "Not only was she a successful woman, but she was also a member and supporter of our Section and a friend to all of us," said Frances Gauthier, Chair of the Judge Haile Alford Memorial Breakfast Planning Committee and Special Advisor to the MJL Section. "She was an inspiration ..., we want to honor her and our memories of her so that she can continue to inspire newer members of the bar." Judge Alford passed away unexpectedly in August 2003, however, her legacy of service and leadership continues. The Memorial Breakfast, held in her honor, will highlight the accomplishments of current and future leaders in Delaware's legal community. In discussing the purpose for the breakfast, Gauthier commented, "[W]e are proud to resume our tradition of honoring remarkable members of our community at this Memorial Breakfast."

The MJL will present two awards at this year's breakfast – the *2006 MJL Section Leadership Award* and the *2006 MJL Section Community Service Award*. This year's recipient of the Leadership Award is Theresa V. Brown-Edwards, Esquire, an associate at Potter Anderson & Corroon, LLP. Mrs. Brown-Edwards' character, strength, personality, achievements and contributions to the legal community make her the ideal recipient of this prestigious award. The 2006 recipients of the Community Service Award are Mrs. Cynthia Primo Martin, organizer and chair of the Quintin E. Primo, Jr. Lecture Series/Fund for Racial Justice and the Honorable Joshua W. Martin, III, a Partner at Potter Anderson. The Martins have dedicated their lives and work to public service and promoting the interests of diverse groups within the Delaware community. Their hard work and dedication is a testimony to their commitment to community service. David B. Brown, Chairman of Potter Anderson, praised the contributions of his colleagues. "Potter Anderson shares the Section's commitment to diversity efforts within the Delaware legal community and it is an honor to have two of our attorneys recognized for their contributions to the MJL," said Brown.

In addition to the Leadership and Community Service Awards, the MJL will present at the breakfast this year's winner of the *Scholarship for Future and Current Students of Law*. The Scholarship for Future and Current Students of Law was aimed at students presently attending or planning on attending law school. Candidates were required to submit an essay highlighting a person, issue or event that impacted their desire to pursue a career in the law. The winner of this year's \$1,000 scholarship is Darcy A. White. Ms.

White presently attends Widener Law School. Her essay submission highlighted tumultuous events in her family's history that were the driving force in her pursuit of a career in the law. The MJL wishes Ms. White continued success as she moves towards graduation and attainment of her juris doctorate.

The Memorial Breakfast and its honorees are a testament to the MJL Section's commitment to honoring its members, past, present and future. Gregory Williams, a member of the MJL and a Partner at Fox Rothschild LLP, is proud of the work the MJL has done in honoring its leaders. "It is fitting that the MJL Section has chosen to name its Annual Memorial Breakfast in honor of Judge Alford. I hope that the breakfast will become an annual event to honor the legacy of those trailblazers, like Judge Alford, who paved the way for the members of the MJL Section currently practicing law in Delaware." Congratulations to Theresa Brown-Edwards, Joshua and Cynthia Martin and Darcy White for continuing the legacy of greatness and service evident in the life and work of Judge Alford.